



Shattered Fear

Tara Thomas

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From New York Times bestselling author Tara Sue Me, writing as Tara Thomas, comes an explosive new romantic suspense series.

Welcome to the sultry streets of Charleston, where simmering desire and dark danger rule...

Forbidden love never felt so good...

She's got a killer to catch.

He just might be it.

Undercover detective Janie Roberts needs to find out for sure if Brent Taylor is a murderer.

Handsome, wealthy, and sexy-as-sin Brent Taylor.

She's got to get close enough to learn his secrets.

But getting this close is dangerous in more ways than one...

Shattered Fear Details

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Author : Tara Thomas

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Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Novella, Suspense, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Shattered Fear for online ebook

Dianne says

Undercover cop Janie Roberts knows he fits the profile of the villain who is abducting women near a refined “gentlemen’s club.” Shouldn’t be a problem for Janie, except handsome charming and extremely wealthy Brent Taylor also fits as a possible love interest for the normally all-business cop. That blur of focus and his incredible skills behind closed doors could not only cost her job, but the lives of innocent victims as she gets too up close and personal with a suspect.

Only when she is caught with her hand in the proverbial cookie jar, is she forced to reveal who she is. Has Janie blown the case? Has she blown any chances with Brent if he is innocent? Someone is lurking in the shadows, pulling the strings of life and death and he may just get away with it, thanks to Janie.

SHATTERED FEAR by Tara Thomas is a short introduction to a new romantic suspense series that has all of the elements to promise some high tension reading, but acts more as a slightly erotic teaser than anything. Sure there are some very dark elements that beg to be revealed, and hopefully more depth will follow for each of the characters!

A quick read that may entice readers to want more of the meat and potatoes of a mystery/suspense with a side of steaming fluff.

I received a complimentary ARC review copy from St. Martin's Paperbacks.

Series: Sons of Broad - Book .5

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Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Carrie says

Shattered Fear by Tara Thomas is the first of three prequel novellas being published in the new romantic suspense Sons of Broad series. These prequel novellas feature detective Janie Roberts who has been working undercover as a bartender while working a case searching for a killer.

As Janie is tending bar she meets the handsome and charming Brent Taylor and there is something about him that draws her in. Brent checks all the boxes of the type of man Janie should be looking for as a suspect in the crime but before Janie knows it she finds herself crossing a line that she shouldn't.

I wasn't familiar with this author before picking up this series but it didn't surprise me at all to learn that she is crossing over from writing erotic stories when the steam began to rise from the pages in this little novella. Her first attempt her with romantic suspense though felt like a solid beginning to the series and had my curiosity up.

Anyone that follows my reviews at all may very well be able to guess what my complaint with this first book would be.... it's just too short of course. It seems like as soon as the story is established and the characters introduced the book was at the end. I would give this open 3.5 stars and I do believe that all three opening novellas in this series though focus on Janie and Brent so I'll definitely be checking out what happens to them next in Hidden Fate.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>

Anita says

Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) provided by the Author and Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an fair and honest review.

Love this novella, except: IT IS A CLIFFHANGER!! I really hate cliffhangers. I want a complete story in a book and I really don't like the format. That little rant over with, I really love the plot and the characters, and, yes, I will continue this series. I like this authors style, except for the cliffhanger.

Janie Roberts, Charleston, South Carolina police detective is undercover as a bartender and she has a kidnapper and killer to catch. When handsome, wealthy and oh-so -sexy Brent Taylor catches her eye, she has to make a decision: is he or isn't he the one. But getting close to him convinces Janie that he is definitely "the one".

Janie has made a powerful enemy, one with a lot of money and influence and one who is now targeting her.

Beatrice Masaluña says

Thank you St. Martin's Press for providing an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Hmm.. I don't understand why these prequel novellas are breakdown into three parts instead of one (which I prefer). This one is about Detective Janie Roberts working as an undercover agent by bartending in a club to investigate whereabouts of girls who went missing at the said establishment and she'll hunt down the suspect. While working, she meets Brent Taylor. He's a sexy and good looking guy. Both of them are attracted to each other but Janie was wary about him and chances are he's the one responsible of these heinous crime.

Suspense/thriller wise it's good but the characters were underdeveloped. Not a fan of the romance here because everything just happened so fast. I wish these characters take their time ? The Gentleman was shady af. I hope the next ones are better.

Lexxie (un)Conventional Bookworms says

This review was originally posted on (un)Conventional Bookviews

*I received a free copy of [title] from [publisher] via Netgalley. This has in no way influenced my voluntary

review, which is honest and unbiased *Shattered Fear started out pretty strong, but as the story went on, I found Janie to be a rather weak female character. For a seasoned police officer, she acted more like a damsel in distress than someone who could take control and catch a killer.

Story:

The mystery is pretty strong in Shattered Fear, and I enjoyed how one character remained unknown until the end. Only alluded to as 'The Gentleman' the brain behind missing women and murdered dancers never showed his face. Not even to the readers. Apart from the mystery, though, I was left with wanting more. I wanted more character development. More interactions between the protagonists. More of the actual police work.

Characters:

Janie was working as an undercover police officer in a bar / gentlemen's club from where several women had been kidnapped. She was very easily distracted by Brent, though. And while their chemistry was good, I couldn't really get into that because Janie didn't really act like an experienced investigator.

Brent is a rich man, used to having things go his way. And that's about all I got to know about him.

Writing style :

Third person point of view, past tense with some good dialogues, and Shattered Fear should have blown me away. Sadly, it didn't. I am very curious about 'the Gentleman', though, and I will continue reading this series.

Feels :

I was mostly a bit frustrated. I wanted Janie to be more assertive. In charge, of herself and the situation, instead, she immediately went on to lean on Brent and let him take care of things for her.

He was classically handsome in the guy-next-door look. Of course, she had no idea where that phrase came from; none of her neighbors had ever been half as good-looking.

Sophia says

A tantalizing series of prequel novellas set the tone for the series and whet the reader's appetite beginning with this first installment, Shattered Fear

Undercover cop, Janie, is trying to catch a serial kidnapper who preys on unattached women working a certain bar. She encounters sexy Brent Taylor and doesn't know whether to lose herself in his kisses or cuff him as chief suspect.

I enjoyed the set up. The suspense is strong where even the clever, unknown villain gets some narration time with Janie. She's a determined cop, but she is distracted- more than distracted- by sexy Brent who may or may not be more than he seems (not sure a cop of her supposed caliber would let herself get into this sort of trouble, but I'll go with it, for now). She's up against a lot once she starts to fall for Brent, but women are being taken and never seen again so she tries hard to work her case even while being in Brent's bed is the most amazing experience of her life. Whew boy that was some great sensual and steamy interludes, too.

The villain ups the stakes and this segment of the prequel series ends on an ominous note of murder,

attempted murder, plans for a new kidnapping victim and Janie right in the crosshairs. I can't wait to see what comes next.

My thanks to St. Martin's Press for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Debra Presley says

Shattered Fear was a short read but a great beginning to a series that I already want to know the ending too. I jumped right into the next book.

If you like a book that will have you constantly wondering 'who did it' this is for you. The chemistry between the Janie and Brent was immediate. I'm jumping right into the next book.

Wit & Wonder Books says

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review

Shattered Fear by Tara Thomas is a spine tingling, action packed novella that will leave you wanting more. This short story introduces you to the main characters and will leave you with a big time cliff hanger, so get ready to be hooked on this new series.

Janie Roberts is a cop who is sent undercover to solve a disturbing case of girls going missing from a gentleman's club. While bartending, she meets someone who just might fit the suspects profile.

Brent Taylor, a wealthy, well known business man in Charleston is hard to deny when he asks Janie out while she is working undercover. She finds herself drawn to him, but knows she must keep her distance. After all, he could be the murderer they are searching for.

Resisting Brent's sizzling good looks, while trying to investigate him, may be Janie's undoing. Can she keep her head in the game, and solve the crime without endangering herself or those around her?

This was my first time reading Tara Thomas. I am a huge mystery and crime fiction fan, and I can tell this series is going to satisfy. A bit of sizzling romance thrown into the mix made this a fast paced, enjoyable read. I highly recommend picking this one up and settling in for some great entertainment.

4 stars for this fiery novella by Tara Thomas.

Anne - Books of My Heart says

I read this last night to see if I might want to continue into the series with the first book releasing at the end of February. I love the genre so it was my top pick to try out of about 10 options from publisher emails. Well this wasn't for me.

I realize it is a novella and while it had plot and action it was just lacking too much in character and world development. The romance happened way too quickly; I would expect it to develop over time or over continued time spent together in a full book. These were people who had just met, who by virtue of their circumstance should be very cautious. Sure they might have an instant attraction and crazy lust but I didn't feel that and why would they just jump in?

This was not for me.

~ Stéphanie ~ Tied up in Romance ~ says

I'm not reading a lot of romantic suspense romance but when I first read the synopsis of Darkest night, first book in the Sons of Broad series, I was curious right away.

Shattered Fear is a novella to give you a glimpse of what's happening in the street of Charleston. I have to admit that I should have paid more attention because I wasn't aware there would be three novellas with the same characters but that being said I still enjoyed the set up of what's to come. I'm definitely curious about the Benedict family.

As for Janie and Brent, the main characters in these three novellas, they are kind of cute but I have a problem connecting fully with them. Them together felt a little too easy, too quick but it doesn't bother all that much because to me it's not the main focus. The danger surrendering them is what keeps me going. I have many questions and I hope to find some answers soon.

~I voluntary read a copy of this book provided by the publisher ~

Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

Shattered Fear is a well told introduction to what looks like a very promising series.

Janie Roberts is an undercover cop investigating the disappearance of many girls. When Brent a wealthy businessman asks her out she knows she must keep her wits about her as he could be involved.

A great introduction to the characters and after that ending I can't wait to read more.

Sarah says

Shattered Fear is the first of three prequel novellas in the new Sons of Broad series by **Tara Thomas** and it introduces readers to Detective Janie Roberts who is currently investigating a potential serial killer. Women have been going missing from a local bar and Janie is working there undercover looking for suspects. Wealthy businessman Brent fits the profile for the murderer perfectly and is currently her number one suspect but that doesn't stop her from finding him incredibly attractive and it doesn't take long for her to blur the lines between professional and personal.

This novella started out quite well so I hate to say it but it went downhill fast, Janie is supposed to be a

brilliant detective but she completely loses all common sense simply because a handsome man is interested in her. Never mind that she thinks he might be a serial killer - he's so hot she's going to sleep with him anyway! The speed at which their relationship progresses was beyond ridiculous and that completely ruined the story for me. What woman in their right mind would have sex with a man she thinks is abducting and murdering women? I don't care if he looks like David Gandy, if I think a guy might murder me I'm not hopping in bed with him!!

I've since found out that the first three novellas in this series are all about this couple so I think the author and publisher have basically chosen to split what should have been a full length book into three parts but I really don't understand the reasoning behind that. I think this could have been really good as a longer story where **Tara Thomas** could have taken her time developing the romance but it's like she suspected readers wouldn't buy the rest of the story if she didn't include the couple hooking up in the first instalment. This is one of the worst cases of insta-love I've seen in a romantic suspense, it might have worked in a paranormal fated mates type trope but fails spectacularly in a contemporary setting.

I have to admit if I'd bought this novella myself I probably wouldn't be interested enough to carry on reading, mainly due to the speed of the romance but also because Janie was the most unprofessional and hopeless detective I've ever come across. She has no credibility as an intelligent woman or a trained detective and I highly suspect the murderer could run at her with a knife in his hand and she wouldn't have the brains to think him dangerous. As for Brent we've not been given enough information about him for me to feel invested in him as a character so at the moment I don't really care what happens to him. Because I was given all three novellas for review from the publisher I'm going to read the rest of their story to see if Janie manages to redeem herself and if I ever find her relationship with Brent credible but unfortunately I'm nowhere near as excited for this series as I was before.

Melanie says

Shattered Fear was a quick, enjoyable romantic suspense read that does a great job setting up the series.

It's summertime in Charleston and undercover detective Janie Roberts has a killer to catch. Working as a bartender at a nightclub, she meets Brent Taylor who appears to match the criteria for the killer. As Janie gets to know Brent to find out if he's the killer, she unexpectedly finds herself falling for him. Could Brent really be the killer or is there someone else lurking in the shadows?

Janie is a competent detective who after discovering a link between several missing women and a nightclub, pushes to work there undercover. Janie is dedicated to her job and wouldn't know what to do in life if she wasn't a cop. Brent is a well known philanthropist who is as charming as he is handsome. As this novella is fairly short, Janie and Brent's relationship does move to the next level fairly quickly but it was well done and very sexy.

The plot with the missing women was a fairly interesting one. Then when one is murdered, the stakes are even higher. I'm curious to find out who the mysterious Gentleman is who's pulling the strings. I have a theory on who The Gentleman's helper is, so I'm excited to find out if I'm right in future books.

As the first of three prequel novellas, *Shattered Fear* did a great job getting me interested in the characters and the plot and I'm excited to find out what will happen in the rest of the books.

I received an advance copy of this book from Netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Eve Recinella (Between The Bookends) says

This was a pretty decent super quick novella that sets up the **SONS OF BROAD** series. The relationship was a little too insta and fell a little flat for me but since Janie and Brent continue in other novellas and maybe the full-length books as well I went with it. I also have a reasonably good idea who the baddie is that is doing *THE GENTERLMANS* dirty work. Overall though, I was intrigued enough to continue with the series.

Heather says

So I knew going into this story that it was a novella designed to introduce a new series. However, I had no idea that meant it would end on a cliffhanger! Ugh! Other than that it was a great setup for a series. The story had interesting characters and what could be interesting plot twists. However, at times it seemed to focus more on the romance than the actual mystery so readers looking for more police procedural aspects may be disappointed.
